

11 Will or be going to

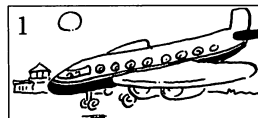
Compare **will** and **be going to**:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 We use will with an infinitive (do, go, be, arrive etc.):</p> <p><i>John will INFINITIVE arrive tomorrow.</i></p> <p>I/you/he (etc.) will/'ll go.</p> <p>I/you/he (etc.) will not/won't go.</p> <p>Will I/you/he (etc.) go?</p> | <p>We use be going to with to + infinitive (to do, to be, to rain etc.):</p> <p><i>It's going to + INFINITIVE to rain soon.</i></p> <p><i>My friends are going to come tonight.</i></p> <p><i>It isn't going to rain today.</i></p> <p><i>What are you going to do on Sunday?</i></p> |
| <p>2 We use will for actions that we decide to do NOW, at the moment of speaking:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>past</p> <p><i>I like this coat. I think I'll buy it.</i></p> <p>A: What would you like to eat?</p> <p>B: I'll have a pizza, please.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>now</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">speaking</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">decision</div> </div> </div> <p>We can use will for offers and promises:</p> <p><i>I'll carry your case for you. (offer)</i></p> <p><i>I won't forget your birthday again. (promise)</i></p> | <p>We use be going to for actions that we have decided to do BEFORE we speak:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>past</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">decision</div> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>now</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">speaking</div> </div> </div> <p><i>I'm going to clean my room this afternoon. (I decided to clean it this morning.)</i></p> <p>We can ask questions about people's plans:</p> <p><i>Which train are you going to catch?</i></p> <p>(= Which train have you decided to catch?)</p> |
| <p>3 We use will to talk about things that we think or believe will happen in the future:</p> <p><i>I'm sure you'll enjoy the film.</i></p> <p><i>I'm sure it won't rain tomorrow. It'll be another beautiful, sunny day.</i></p> | <p>We use be going to for something that we expect to happen, because the situation now indicates that it is going to happen:</p> <p><i>He's running towards the goal, and he's going to score.</i></p> |

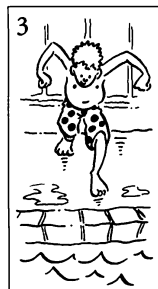
Practice

- A** Look at the pictures and complete the sentences about what we can see is going to happen. Use **be going to** and the words in the box.

take catch
eat land
jump knock



- 0 He's going to eat _____ his meal.
- 1 The plane _____.
- 2 She _____ a picture.
- 3 He _____ into the water.
- 4 She _____ on the door.
- 5 He _____ the ball.



B Make sentences with 'I and the words in brackets ().

- 0 Sit down. (I / make / you a cup of coffee.) I'll make you a cup of coffee.
- 1 A: It's time for me to go home.
B: (I / give / you a lift.) _____
- 2 (I / phone / you tonight, I promise.) _____
- 3 A: I won't be able to buy the tickets for the concert today.
B: Don't worry. (I / buy / the tickets for both of us, and I / meet / you at the concert hall.) _____
- 4 A: Oh no, it's raining and I must go to the shops.
B: That's okay. (I / lend / you my umbrella.) _____

C Complete these sentences using the correct form of *am/is/are going to* and the words in brackets ().

- 0 I keep sneezing. I'm going to get _____ (get) a bad cold.
- 1 Some of my friends _____ (have) a party next week.
They've invited lots of people.
- 2 I _____ (play) tennis this afternoon. I've booked a court.
- 3 We _____ (move) to a different area of the town
because we don't like this area.
- 4 Anna _____ (look) for a different job. She wants
to do something more interesting.
- 5 They said on the radio that it _____ (rain) this afternoon.

D Complete the sentences, using the words in brackets and 'I or a form of *be going to*.

- 0 A: It's rather hot in here, isn't it?
B: Yes, you're right. I'll open _____ (I/open) a window.
- 1 A: Are you going to watch TV tonight?
B: Yes, _____ (I/watch) my favourite programme at 9 o'clock.
- 2 A: What _____ (you/eat) tonight? What food have you bought?
B: I haven't bought any food.
A: Well, why don't you come to my house? _____ (I/cook) us
something nice to eat.
- 3 A: I'm going into the centre of town tomorrow. _____ (I/buy)
some new clothes.
B: Oh, what _____ (you/get)?
A: _____ (I/look) for a T-shirt and some jeans.
B: I'd like to go into the centre too. _____ (I/come) with you.
- 4 A: _____ (I/leave) work late tomorrow. There is a meeting at 6 p.m.
B: Oh, I didn't know that. Well, _____ (I/see) you after the meeting.
- 5 _____ (I/phone) Tom at 6 o'clock. I promised to phone him
this evening.
- 6 A: Are you going to have a holiday in the summer?
B: Yes, _____ (I/travel) around Europe with a friend.